

Subj: \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$
Date: 10/23/2003 3:44:07 PM Central Standard Time
From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]

Dear Sir,

Here are the pictures. I do think that it is a dollar sign, but look forward to your expertise on the subject. To briefly recap - the book is 1762. The notations could have been made later but, due to the nature of the book, I think most likely that the figures were written around the time of, or shortly after, the purchase of the book. Upon returning home there would have been other paper available for such a notation, ergo no need to deface a souvenir from overseas.

I also think, and stress the word think, that he could have been a Nathaniel Noyes of Essex, Mass. who was born in 1681 and died in 1770. My reasoning for such a supposition is as follows: the sum of \$3650 being quite considerable back then, would not have been carried by a child; he must have been a man of some recognition - money; people listed on the internet under any genealogical search are far more likely to have been rich, to have been remembered, than poor. Many other rationales but rather fanciful.

When I find it will take a picture of the map I purchased in Tunis and used while hitchhiking around North Africa in the late '60s.

I look forward to hearing from you and should you like or need further pictures will be happy to send them.

Sincerely,

Peta E. Brennan

hopibooks (named after my dog which I brought back from the Hopi Indian reservation)

603/863/8780

603 Center Road, Goshen, NH 03752-0177

Subj: Re: \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$
Date: 10/25/2003 3:01:40 PM Central Standard Time
From: 
To:

Dear Ms. Brennan: I received your communication and the picture of the handwritten entry in the 1762 book.

I am satisfied that the insignia before the total is the \$ sign. An interpretation of the content of the items listed indicates that it is early 19th century. Gold and silver would not be valued in "dollars" in 1762 unless they were Spanish-American dollars (pieces of eight reales) and would have been valued in New England in "lawful money" or money of account pounds and shillings at the rate of six shillings to the Spanish dollar. The sum would not have been valued in dollars before the 1790s. In addition the "500 Bills" indicates these are paper money of American banks after 1781 which were the only redeemable bills in dollar values. There were no bills in New England in dollar denominations prior to the Revolution. The few New England bills of dollar value during the American Revolution became virtually worthless in 1780. Therefore in my opinion the entry was made after 1780 and as late as the Civil War.

It was not unusual for people to make secret entries in the flyleaf of a book and thus hide it from others. Often they forgot where they hid it but they could always look for it. You will note that there were no names connected with it.

I hope I have been helpful.

Turnabout is fair play. I notice that there is a chapter 10 on the Mint and the Manner of Stamping Money. Would you be nice enough to make some kind of a copy of that chapter for me as I am unfamiliar with that text. Isn't it strange that you sent me a title sheet with something in my field?

Eric P. Newman

Subj: Re: \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$
Date: 10/26/2003 3:42:11 PM Central Standard Time
From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Newman,

I am happy to send you the picture and had I noticed it would certainly have sent it anyway. His name, Nathaniel Noyes, is on the book in more than one place, and in the same writing as the numerical notations and it looks as if written with the same pen.

Your information is most interesting and I thank you for it. Hope that the picture comes through alright. If I ever find anything else along the same lines will be sure to send it along to you.

Thanks again. Peta Brennan

EricNumis@aol.com wrote:

Dear Ms. Brennan: I received your communication and the picture of the handwritten entry in the 1762 book. I am satisfied that the insignia before the total is the \$ sign. An interpretation of the content of the items listed indicates that it is early 19th century. Gold and silver would not be valued in "dollars" in 1762 unless they were Spanish-American dollars (pieces of eight reales) and would have been valued in New England in "lawful money" or money of account pounds and shillings at the rate of six shillings to the Spanish dollar. The sum would not have been valued in dollars before the 1790s. In addition the "500 Bills" indicates these are paper money of American banks after 1781 which were the only redeemable bills in dollar values. There were no bills in New England in dollar denominations prior to the Revolution. The few New England bills of dollar value during the American Revolution became virtually worthless in 1780. Therefore in my opinion the entry was made after 1780 and as late as the Civil War. It was not unusual for people to make secret entries in the flyleaf of a book and thus hide it from others. Often they forgot where they hid it but they could always look for it. You will note that there were no names connected with it. I hope I have been helpful. Turnabout is fair play. I notice that there is a chapter 10 on the Mint and the Manner of Stamping Money. Would you be nice enough to make some kind of a copy of that chapter for me as I am unfamiliar with that text. Isn't it strange that you sent me a title sheet with something in my field? Eric P. Newman

Subj: **dollar sign**
Date: 11/12/2003 10:01:21 AM Central Standard Time
From: 
To:

Dear Mr. Newman,

Just to let you know that I ended up putting the book on Ebay for sale at a far more reasonable price than the one I told you about earlier. I didn't want to do it but property taxes have gone up again. I guess it's the same all over the country. The # is 3565519077 should you have any interest.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Peta Brennan